

The Honorable Carl Levin
 United States Senate
 Washington, D.C. 20510

[with same letter to Stabenow & Upton]

Dear Senator Levin:

Thank you for your May 13, 2013 letter to Administrator McCarthy regarding the Allied Paper Landfill portion of the Allied Paper/Portage Creek/Kalamazoo River Superfund Site in Kalamazoo, Michigan. She has asked me to respond on her behalf.

All of the cleanup alternatives under consideration by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency are protective of human health and the environment and would allow some on-site redevelopment. Over the past several months, EPA, the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), and the City of Kalamazoo (City) have been working together to explore potential reuse scenarios, even for the alternatives where waste would be left in place. If waste were left in place, the City has indicated that they would prefer recreational reuse of capped portions and light industrial/commercial reuse of the uncapped areas.

EPA is currently working to identify any emerging technologies that might be applicable to the Allied Landfill waste and intends to soon discuss its findings with the City. Any EPA will provide an evaluation of emerging technologies would have to meet the same criteria and whether their use would be appropriate at Allied Landfill as was done with any of the cleanup alternatives already those treatment technologies evaluated in the Feasibility Study.

The groundwater at Allied Landfill flows to Portage Creek and not toward the City well field. Moreover, monitoring data demonstrate that PCBs are not migrating off-site via groundwater. This monitoring includes well data from 2002 and 2003, a groundwater flow study conducted in 2009, and samples collected from the landfill's groundwater collection system since 2002. Based on this information, groundwater at Allied landfill does not pose a risk to the City well field. At the request of MDEQ, EPA will collect additional groundwater samples this summer and has received input from the City in developing those plans. If EPA selects a cleanup alternative that leaves any waste in place, a robust groundwater monitoring program would be put in place to evaluate the effectiveness of the cleanup over the long term.

Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Eileen Deamer or Ronna Beckmann, the Region 5 Congressional Liaisons, at (312) 886-3000.

Sincerely,

Susan Hedman
 Regional Administrator